October 2008

MASC E-NEWSLETTER

2008-09 MASC Exec. Board

(Left to Right) Chris Folken, Kari Johnson, Stephanie Whitman, Arthur Taylor, Parth Shah

The Minnesota Association of Student Councils is a state wide organization that provides high schools and middle level schools, advisors, and students with an opportunity to participate in leadership activities to better themselves and their student councils.

Hello to all of you. My name is Parth Shah, your MASC Vice-President, and on behalf of the Executive Board I would like to welcome you to the first MASC E-Newsletter for the 2008-2009 year. We have just kicked this year off into full gear and recently got back from planning parts of the state convention in Austin, MN, the so called "spamtown." The site is perfect for our conference and we are excited to make this a convention one to never forget. In this issue you get to meet your 2008-2009 MASC Executive Board, glance over some important dates, and get pumped up for an thrilling state convention in 2009!

Dates

October 26th, 2008

Division Presidents' Meeting in St. Cloud, MN

Division presidents from all around the state and the MASC Executive Board will convene the night preceding the Presidents' Forum to get up to date at the respective levels and scope out what the upcoming year will look like.

October 27th, 2008

Presidents' Forum in Sartell, MN/ Advisors Workshop

Student Council presidents and officers will come together to learn leadership skills, discuss issues, make service project announcements, exchange ideas, and network.

March 13th, 2009

State Officer Nominations Due in MASC Office for 2009-2010

March 28-30th, 2009

MASC State Convention at Austin High School

June 27-30th, 2009

NASC Conference in Denver, Colorado

Meet Your 2008-2009 MASC Executive Board

State Advisor - Sue Iverson

Welcome Back MASC! I hope you all had a great summer and have returned to school fired-up and ready to provide a year full of fun activities for your classmates.

As MASC State Advisor, I had the privilege of spending the last week in June traveling with the awesome MN delegation to the NASC conference in Fort Worth, TX. It was HOT, but we had a great time and came home with many new friends as well as tons of ideas to begin using in our schools. If you have never had the opportunity to attend a National Convention, make it your goal for the year to find out more about our 2009 trip to Denver, CO. Whether at a Division meeting, a 1-day leadership workshop, President's Forum, or the State Convention, network and find people who have attended Nationals in the past, and find out about their experiences. We would love to have you join us next June!

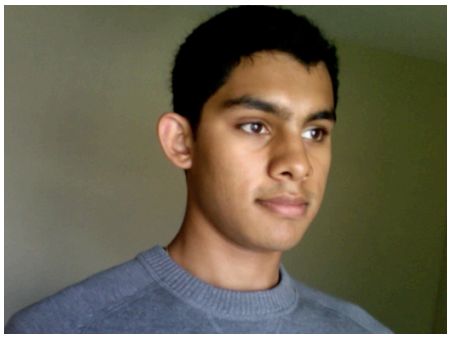
The student council delegates at State 2008 elected an amazing executive board to lead you through the school year. Arthur Taylor, Parth Shah, Stephanie Whitman, Kari Johnson and Chris Folken have already started meeting and planning for the coming year. They are a dedicated, creative group so know that you are in good hands!

Finally, I am here as a resource for you! So if you have questions or suggestions for future programming, please feel free to contact me at any time. Advisors or student council members – I look forward to hearing from you!

State President - Arthur Taylor

HEY M.A.S.C!!!! I am Arthur Taylor and I'm your 2008-2009 President. Many of you may know me from past conferences including this past N.A.S.C conference where we got a taste of southern leadership. For those of you who don't know me, I am a senior at Minneapolis South High where I am our student council president as well as a member of other organizations. I also play rugby. I love being active and being with my friends. My favorite color is green and my two favorite things are politics and reading. My favorite shows are, Grey's Anatomy, The Hills, Little People Big World and John and Kate plus 8. My best friend is Stewie from Family guy. So now that you know a little about me, I look forward to seeing and meeting everyone at out M.A.S.C conference where you get a chance to network, learn new things and have a GREAT TIME!!!!

State Vice-President - Parth Shah



Hey Everyone! My name is Parth Shah and I'm your 2008-2009 MASC Vice-President. I am currently a junior at Wayzata High School in Plymouth, MN and I love to be around my family and friends and relish the time I have with others. I enjoy spending my Sunday's watching football games with whom ever while eating away at something. Some activities that I'm involved with include tennis, basketball, National Honors Society, and something that you could probably guess: student council. Recently, I have been active at Kiva.org, a non-profit organization trying to alleviate global poverty by allowing lenders to loan as small as 25 dollars to entrepreneurs in the developing world. I encourage you to check it out at www.kiva.org. It's exciting to be in charge putting together this newsletter for this year and I hope it is useful and keeps you up-to-date with what is going on at the state level.

State Secretary - Stephanie Whitman

Hello Everyone! My name is Stephanie Whitman, and I am your Minnesota State Secretary for the 2008-09 school year. I am not only very honored and excited to serve all of you, but also privileged to be working alongside this year's incredible executive board. I have always been an active and deeply involved member of my school's student council. Not only do I love photography and traveling, in college I am hoping to pursue a major in biology. Hope you all have a great year!

State Convention CO-Coordinator - Kari Johnson

Hey MASC! I'm Kari Johnson, one of your State Convention Coordinators. I live in Austin and for those of you who don't know, we are considered Spamtown USA! And just in case you were wondering I do eat spam and actually quite enjoy it. Besides Student Council, I play volleyball, watch football games on Sundays, and enjoy eating sour punch straws. My favorite thing to do however is to go skiing at Afton Alps where I am on a race team, even though Afton is about 2 hours away. I have a dog named Guinness and two siblings, Anna and Braeden. I am so excited to be involved this year and make the State Convention something you all will remember. Keep up the good work at your schools and I can't wait to see you all at the MASC State Convention in SPAMTOWN!

State Convention CO-Coordinator - Chris Folken

"Hey everyone! My name is Christian Folken and I am this years State CO-Coordinator. I'm a junior at Austin High School and I live in Austin, MN better known as Spamtown, USA! To tell you a few things about myself, I am in cross country and track and I love to run in my spare time..even in the winter haha! Some groups I am involved in are Student Council, Orchestra, Drama Club, NHS, and Knowledge Bowl. I LOVE pasta, any kind of Chinese food, and ice cream! I am really interested in politics and I love to keep up to date on the presidential elections. I'm also a BIG comedy fan so I love to watch any funny movies and I watch Saturday Night Live every week! I'm SO excited for this year and look forward to an AWESOME state convention!"

2009 MASC Presidents' and Officer Training and Advisors Workshop

It's not too late to register for the 2009 MASC President and Officer Training or the Advisors Workshop on Monday, October 27th. This training will take place at Sartell High School. Forms are available on the MASC website at www.massp.org/MASC

This Forum is for Student Council Presidents, Vice Presidents, Class Presidents and Officers. Your Student Council leaders play a vital role in creating a positive atmosphere at your school. We are pleased to have Phil Boyte as our leadership consultant for this training. Phil will provide the attendees with the leadership skills they need to be effective. Topics to be covered are delegating effectively, creating accountability, staying committed, time management, setting realistic goals, giving feedback to peer, working with your advisor, conflict resolution among peers and setting up meetings for success.

We hope to see you there!!

2009 MASC State Convention

Howdy Y'all! Chris Folken, Kari Johnson, and the Austin High School Student Council would like to invite you to Austin, MN for the 2009 MASC State Convention. This year's theme is Leadership Round-Up and will include wonderful speakers as well as some mighty fine activities. To watch a sneak preview of this years convention visit http://www.massp.org/masc.html. So what are you waiting for...grab a partner and gallop on down to Spamtown.

Well, this concludes our first MASC E-Newsletter for this year. If you have any questions or comments please email me, Parth Shah, at parthshah10@gmail.com.